

Title 36

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE RULE  
BOARD OF COAL MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY  
~~CHAPTER 22-2A~~  
SERIES ~~40-25~~

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SECRETARY OF STATE

Title: Roof Control Practices

Section 1. General

- 1.1 Scope - This legislative rule establishes requirements for control of mine roof conditions, and for operation of roof bolting machines.
- 1.2 Authority - W. Va. Code <sup>22-6-4</sup> ~~22-2A-4~~
- 1.3 Filing Date - July 18, 1985
- 1.4 Effective Date - August 30, 1985

Section 2. Definitions

- 2.1 All terms used in these rules and regulations, not defined herein, shall have the meanings set forth in Section 2, Article ~~1~~, Chapter <sup>1A</sup> ~~22~~ of the Code.

Section 3. Removal of Roof Hazards

- 3.1 Prior to or during bolting operations in working places, the person responsible for performing such work shall immediately notify a supervisor if abnormal or hazardous conditions are encountered. No further work shall be performed until a supervisor examines the area where he has been informed that abnormal or hazardous conditions exist and directs the correction of such condition.

Section 4. Working Around Roof Bolting Machines

- 4.1 On all roof bolting machines except continuous mining machines with integral roof bolters, during the time that the ATRS system is being engaged against or retracted from the mine roof, all persons except those specified below shall be outby the last row of permanent roof supports. This requirement shall not apply to the equipment operator, provided that adequate protection is provided for the equipment operator while setting the ATRS.

Section 5. Roof Bolting Machines - Requirements

- 5.1 After January 1, 1985, roof bolting machines used in seams 48 inches or higher shall be equipped with a mechanical means of holding the drill steel during drilling operations, which minimizes

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the need for the equipment operator to handle the drill steel.  
The Director of the Department of Mines may require such devices on roof bolting machines used in seams under 48 inches where the technology for such equipment to operate under these conditions is available.

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Section 6. Notification When Pillaring is to Begin

- 6.1 In mines where pillar extraction (second mining) has not been previously performed, the following requirements shall be met before pillaring is begun:
- a. The operator shall review the provisions of the approved roof control plan concerning pillar extraction with all persons to be performing such work, immediately prior to the start of such work.
  - b. The operator shall notify the district inspector in whose district the mine is located five (5) working days prior to the date pillaring is to begin. When deemed necessary the district inspector may require that he be present during the review of the approved roof control plan, provided that he can be present before pillaring is to begin.